



Attorney Docket No.: DBT-004.PCT.US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Georges et al.

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Serial No.: 10/541,536

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Regarding the document(s), publication(s) or other information listed on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant(s) believe(s) the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information cited herein.

2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth in the following documents(s):

(a)        Copy of each English language version of a search report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office of each document being submitted from the search report.

(b)        Attachment entitled "Concise Explanation of Relevance of Non-English Language Documents."

3. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

(a)        Within 3 months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.

(b) X Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. If this Statement is not filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, the required certification is given below or, in the absence thereof, the Office is authorized to charge the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-0251 for consideration of this Statement.

(c)        After the period set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

(1)        The required certification is given below, or

(2)        Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or

(3)        Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-0251.

(d)  After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Petition hereby is made for consideration of this Statement and the required certification is indicated below.

(1)  Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), or

(2)  Charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 50-0251.

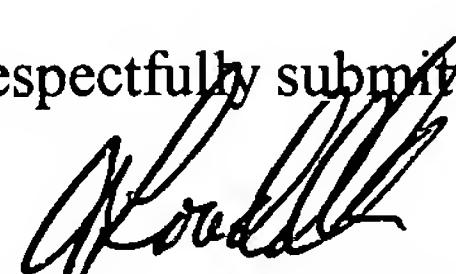
4. Certification (if applicable)

(a)  The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

(b)  The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) more than 3 months prior to the filing of this Statement.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0251.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan R. Loudermilk  
Registration No. 32,788  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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Loudermilk & Associates  
P.O. Box 3607  
Los Altos, CA 94024-0607  
(408) 868-1516